Child and Adolescent Telepsychiatry

Project Investigators: LTC Stephen J. Cozza
Chief, Department of Psychiatry

MAJ Nancy B. Black
Program Director,
Child and Adolescent
Psychiatry Fellowship

Introduction

This project focuses on the feasibility of using live video teleconferencing to provide clinical support to distant sites in remote areas that have little or no access to child psychiatric services

Method

Collection of demographic information about patients who have been seen using this technology. Clinical experience was collected to demonstrate the potential benefit of this modality in a variety of ages, diagnostic categories and for different clinical interactions.

Additional experiential data was collected in this pilot study from clinicians who participated in this project at the distant and near sites.

Finally, an objective measure of pre- post parental

Results

During this pilot project, 69 new child and adolescent psychiatry patients were seen at the Carlisle Barracks Clinic by the project's principal investigator in the period from March 1998 through April 2001. Over 200 total patient contacts were recorded during this weekly half-day clinic. Children ranged in age from 5 - 18 years old.

All diagnostic categories were represented and clinical interactions ranged from screening assessment to ongoing therapeutic management.

Clinician experience during this period suggested satisfaction

Conclusion

Successful implementation of a pilot project in child and adolescent psychiatry that provided multiple services to children of varying ages, varying diagnoses, and varying clinical severity

Positive experiential data report reflecting that this modality is a useful modality of care for children in remote sites where services are generally unavailable

Well suited for wide-scale adaptation on the regional level with services provided from a well-resourced MEDCEN

Larger scale implementation will incur start up costs

WRAMC Consultation Room

Referring Site Consultation Room